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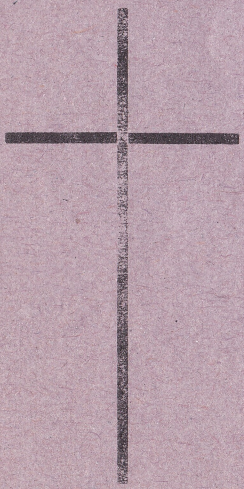
LITTLEBOROUGH

The Messenger



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THE MESSENGER

This Church

CARES

See pages 4 & 5

MAY

1970

MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

May I start on a personal note and thank you all for the flood of cards and presents which has submerged the Manse since the happy arrival of Ruth Bronwen. Mrs. Jenkins and I are most grateful for the good wishes which have been expressed. It has made us more aware of the fact that God has given us many, many friends. People have shown practical help and a deep sense of love. I must admit that last month's magazine took me by surprise, especially with the clerical frontispiece, donated by an anonymous Milnrow artist (Sh....I know who!). I never knew there was such talent, nor such latent wishes to get me dressed in full clerical attire! Still, a sense of humour is an essential ingredient to any Christian, and if we can't smile at ourselves, it is a poor show.

By the time this magazine reaches you, the Lancashire Congregational Union Assembly at Wigan will already have taken place. Many of you will have heard that the Rev. J.A. Figures M.A., H.C.F., is retiring as Moderator of the North-West Province this summer. Mr. Figures has done 14 years of valued, sacrificial service not only for our Province but for the church. He has been a dedicated and faithful leader. Donations are being sent from both churches to the Presentation Fund, and we all join to wish Mr. & Mrs. Figures a happy retirement, later this year.

On the National Denominational scene, I will be representing you in London in the first week in May. The talks with the Presbyterians have reached a stage where technical and legal details have to sorted out. The crucial time for us as churches will be this forthcoming autumn when we will be debating the final document. Because of delays and disappointments, interest in the union has inevitably declined. We must summon up our mutual capabilities and above all our prayers, as we consider the final stage and its effect on us as covenanted churches.

One final word to the many people who read this

magazine who have been housebound for the winter. Not before time, Spring is on its way - we hope that the winter hasn't left people too down-hearted or depressed, and that the lighter weather will give you fresh heart and confidence.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

Glyn Jenkins

Congratulations on CHURCH MEMBERSHIP To: Mrs. ETHEL CROSSLEY of 7 Pioneer St., Littleborough & Mrs. AMY SCOTT of 94 Hare Hill Road, received into membership at LITTLEBOROUGH on Confession of Faith on Sunday 12th April.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. ADA KERSHAW of Overdale Cottage, Limefield, L'bro, passed away in Harrogate on Saturday 21st March 1970. The service was held at the chapel on Wednesday 25th March and commital was at DEARNLEY. Our minister officiated. Mrs. Kershaw was a close friend to all at Littleborough Congregational Church. Our condolences and sympathy go to Mr. Kershaw and the family.

ARTHUR SIMPSON, aged 76, of 23 Howarth St.Littlebro' at Birch Hill on April 21st 1970. A sincere friend and attender at Littleborough Cong. Church. The funeral conducted by our minister was on Friday 24th April.

MARINA BAMFORD, aged 5 months, beloved daughter of Mr. & Mrs. A. Bamford of 13 Birch View, Newhey. Marina's tragic death has caused everyone a lot of sorrow. The funeral was conducted by the minister. Our love and sympathy is extended to the parents and relatives.

*****

BIRTHS To Mr. & Mrs. R. COOKE (nee Starkie) 30 Leaview, Royley Park Estate, Royton, a daughter, GILLIAN LYNNE on April 1st at Boundary Park Hospital, Oldham.

To Mr. & Mrs. J. HOLT, 79 Victoria St., Littleborough, a daughter AMANDA, at home on Monday 13th April.

Congratulations and good wishes.

HOLY BAPTISM

GILLIAN LOUISE ARMITAGE, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. G.T. Armitage of 35 Victoria St. Littleborough, baprised in Family Worship on Sunday April 12th, our minister officiating.

"CARE SCHEME"

* This scheme has been prompted by the Minister and Deacons in an attempt to give greater oversight and care of members of the church and congregation, and to answer the needs of the community.
It means greater pastoral work for deacons, which in turn involves all church members.

* Are you available to:
---take someone to hospital?
---dig someone's garden?
---decorate a front room?
---visit the lonely?
---babysit?
---bring someone to church by car?
---introduce the church to newcomers?

Then please see the deacon in charge of your area.

The areas are:-	Deacon	Address
1. Newhey	Mr. H. Whitehead	32 Ladyhouse Close
	Mrs.E. Starkie	10 Ellenroad Stree
	Miss M. Wood	164 Newhey Road
2. Beechfield Estate	Mr. A. Roberts	54 Beechfield Rd.
	Mr. B. Clough	9 Bowland Grove
3. Harbour Lane Ashfield "	Mrs. E. Gillon	18 Ashfield Lane,
4. Buckley Hill -Firgrove	Mrs. A. Wilson	24 Buckley Hill
5. Ladyhouse	Mr. J. Emmott	6 Ladyhouse Close
6. St.Stephen's	Mr. G. Whitworth	35 Heaton Street
	Mrs. A. Whitworth	60 St. James St.
7. Cornfield	Mr. P. Whitehead	9 Ladyhouse Close
8. Newfield View	Mrs. A. Scaddon	3 Newfield View
-Wellington St.	Mrs. N. Settle	17 St. James St.
9 Smill Hill -Kiln Lane	Mr. K. Hey	72 Smith Hill
10 Parklands	Mr.& Mrs.N.Jones	5 Cambrian Drive

PLEASE DON'T MISS THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF
THE CARE SCHEME

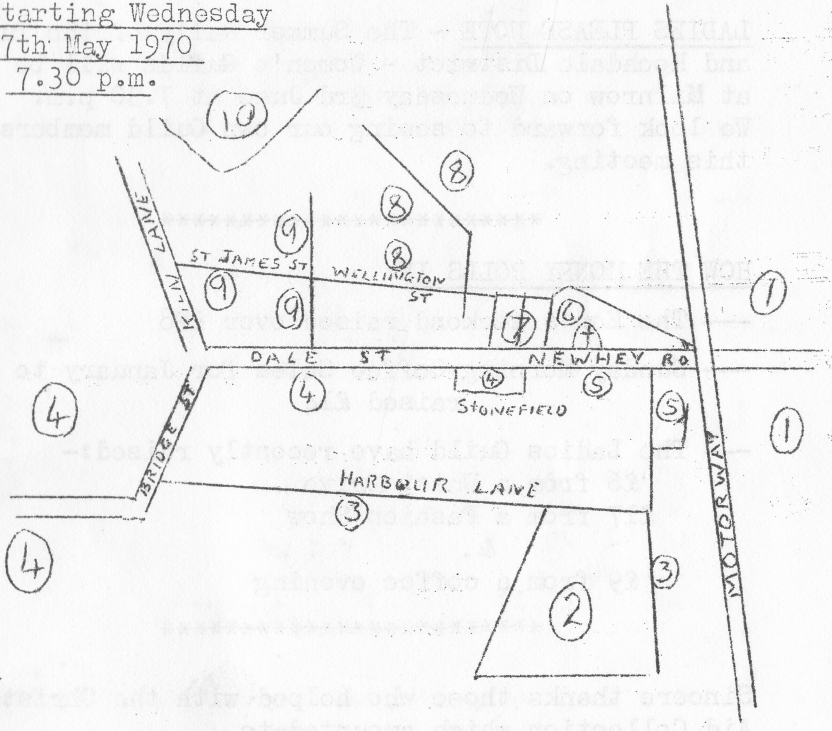
We will be having slides and tape recordings of what happens at St. Stephen's.
Over 100 slides will be shown.

Refreshments will be served.
No Charge for admission!

The whole scheme will be outlined, and you will have a chance to meet the Deacon in charge of your area.

Please bring the children, because they and YOU may be on the slides.

Starting Wednesday
27th May 1970
7.30 p.m.



MYSTERY EVENING

Neil Bruckshaw and Harry Mellor came to the rescue of the Women's Guild on 7th April. There should have been a visiting speaker on that evening, but at the last minute the talk was cancelled, so Harry and Neil came forward with their slide collections at very short notice. Their exhibits included several shots of church life, the motorway, 'Bronwen', Battle of Flowers, Bruckshaw's 'bed in a barn' and the 'models that Mellor meditates on'.

There will be more of the genious of Harry M. in next month's "Messenger"

LADIES PLEASE NOTE - The Summer Rally of the Bury and Rochdale District - Women's Guilds will be held at Milnrow on Wednesday 3rd June at 7.30 p.m. We look forward to seeing our own Guild members at this meeting.

****

HOW THE MONEY ROLLS IN:

--- The Men's Weekend raised over £28

--- Sunday Morning Coffee Sales for January to March raised £14

--- The Ladies Guild have recently raised:-
£6 from a Whist Drive
£17 from a Fashion Show
&
£9 from a coffee evening

****

Sincere thanks those who helped with the Christian Aid Collection which amounted to
£45. 5. 8

SIDESMEN FOR MORNING WORSHIP

May 3rd	Mr. G. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae
10th	Mr. D. Fursey	Mr. R. Gillon
17th	Mr. W. Holland	Mr. W. Prince
24th	Counc.J. Harrison	Counc. I. Royle
31st	Mr. H. Mellor	Mr. C. Pearson
June 7th	Mr. L. Whittaker	Mrs. F. Rae

DEACON'S ROTA

	Evening Worship Door Stewards	Vestry Duty
May 3rd	Mrs. A. Scaddon Mrs. A. Wilson	Mr. H. Whitehead
10th	Mr. K. Hey Mr. J. Emmott	Miss M. Wood
17th	Miss M. Wood Mrs. E. Starkie	Mr. K. Hey
24th	Mrs. A. Whitworth Mrs. N. Settle	Mr. P. Whitehead
31st	Mr. G. Whitworth Mr. B. Clough	Mr. J. Emmott
June 7th	Mr. H. Whitehead Mr. P. Whitehead	Mrs. A. Scaddon

COMMUNION ROTA

MAY 3rd	Mr. P. Whitehead	Mr. J. Emmott
June 7th	Mr. K. Hey	Mr. A. Roberts

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

May 3rd	Mrs. Cudworth	Mrs. A. Roberts
10th	Mrs. Clough	Mrs. Fletcher
17th	WHIT SUNDAY	
24th	Mrs. Busill	Miss I. Tither
31st	Mrs. Prestwich	Mrs. J. Kay
June 7th	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

May 3rd	Mrs. L. Buckley	Mrs. F. Hawker
10th	Mrs. D. Bruckshaw	Mrs. E. Jackson
17th	Mrs. E. Starkie	Mrs. E. Prince
24th	Mrs. E. Busill	Mrs. L. Lord
31st	Mrs. B. Webber	

May

Sat. 2nd	3.0 p.m.	"Little Mod" Fashion Show by "Irene" Tickets 2/6
Sun. 3rd	11.0 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins
	6.0 pm.	" Communion
Mon 4th to Thurs. 7th		ANNUAL ASSEMBLY IN LONDON Our Minister attending
Tues 5th	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild. N.W.G.B.Cookery Demo.
Sun. 10th	11.00 am.	Mr. J. Collinge (Hollinwood)
	6.00 p.m.	Mrs. A Scaddon
Tues.12th	7.30 pm.	Junior Church Staff Meeting
Wed. 13th	7.30 pm.	Deacons Meeting
Thur.14th	7.30 pm.	Choir Practice
Sun. 17th	10.30.am.	Meet for United Procession of Witness with Moorhouse Methodist
	6.00 pm.	Rev. G. Jenkins
Mon. 18th	7.30 pm.	Rochdale Group of Cong. Churches Meeting at Moore Street.
Sun. 24th	11.00 am.	Mrs. E. Gillon
	6.00 pm.	Rev. G. Jenkins
Wed. 27th	7.30 pm.	Church Meeting and Launch of "CARE" Scheme
Sun. 31st	11.00 am.	Mr. C. Hilton (Hollinwood)
	6.00 pm.	"

June

Tues. 2nd	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild - Mrs. A.Scaddon
Wed. 3rd	7.30 pm.	Bury & Rochdale District Women's Guild Rally at Milnrow

OFFERTORIES

March	Envelopes			Cash			Total		
	£	s.	d	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1st	15	7	6	6	18	0	22	5	6
8th	12	16	0	4	19	8	17	15	8
15th	14	18	0	9	14	9	24	12	9
22nd	15	0	6	9	1	11	24	2	6
29th	9	2	0	3	4	3	12	6	3

OUR MINISTER WILL BE ON H

May

Sun.	3rd	10.30 am.	Mr. Peter Whitehead (President of Rochdale Group of Cong. Churches)
Tues.	5th	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild (Birthday Supper)
Fri.	8th	6.30- 8.0 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	10th	10.30 am.	Mr. A. Roberts (Milnrow)
		6.00 pm.	Mr. D.O. Davies (Bury) -Communion
Mon.	11th	7.00 pm.	Deacons Meeting
		7.45 pm.	Church Meeting
Fri.	15th	6.30 -8.0 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	17th	10.30 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins (Joint service followed by Procession of Witness)
Tues.	19th	7.30 pm.	"Busy Bees" Bargain Party
Fri.	22nd	6.30 - 8.0 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	24th	10.30 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins
Thurs	28th	7.45 pm.	Men's Fellowship (Annual Meeting)
Fri.	29th	6.30 - 8.0 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	31st	10.30 am.	Mr. W. Boyton (Thornham)

June

Wed.	3rd	7.30 pm.	Bury & Rochdale Dist. Women's Guild Rally at Milnrow
Fri.	5th	7.00 pm.	Scripture Examination Prize Giving at Zion Baptist.
Sun.	7th	10.30 am.	Mrs. Gillon

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

May	3rd	Mrs. R. Holt
	10th	
	17th	Mrs. Arthur
	24th	Mrs. Macaulay
	31st	Mrs. C. Hill
June	7th	

OFFERTORIES

March	29th	£10.	19.	6
April	5th	£10.	6.	0
	12th	£12.	9.	9
	19th	£ 7.	9.	4

OLIDAY MAY 31st- JUNE 6th

SIDESMEN

May 3rd	Mr. Moller	Mr. Barker	
10th	Mr. H. Hill	Mr. J. Holr	10.30 am.
	Mr. A. Booth	Mr. E. Holt	6.00 pm.
17th	Mr. F. Simpson	Mr. Nairn	
24th	Mr. Ingham	Mr. Beattie	
31st	Mr. Brown	Mr. Moller	
June 7th	Mr. Barker	Mr. H. Hill	

DEACONS COMMUNION ROTA

May 10th	Mr. Brown	Mr. Simpson
June	Mr. W. Barker	Mr. Beattie

CRECHE ROTA

May 3rd	Pat Schofield	Dorothy Mallinson
10th	Beryl Hartley	Hilary Vincent
17th	Stella Moss	Brenda Leach
24th	Margery Holt	Barbara Griffiths
31st	Aileen Radcliffe	Pat Schofield
June 6th	Dorothy Mallinson	Beryl Hartley

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

May 3rd	"Life in the Spirit of Christ" Romans 12	Elizabeth Leach
10th	"Praying for each other" Col. 1: v.1-15	Counc. I. Royle
17th	WHIT SUNDAY	
24th	"The Promise of Life" John 10: v.1-10	Mrs. B. Hartley
31st	"The Spirit at Work" Acts 3: v1-10	Mrs.P.Lightfoot
June 7th	"A Call to Worship" Psalm 150	Mr. F. Simpson

PILOTS SET SAIL

There was an excellent turn-out at the first Pilots meeting on 17th April.

Our thanks go to Mrs. Lightfoot and Mr. Law for the Pilot flag and our very best wishes go to the Captain, Officers and Crew.

£15. 10. 0 was raised at Littleborough in a Jumble Sale organized for C.C.W.M. and Junior Church.

ON YOUR MARKS

The 20 scholars who took the Scripture Examination in March will very soon know their results. We hope they will be receiving their prizes and certificates at Zion Baptist Church on Friday 5th June.

Meanwhile, the Junior Church staff had a preparation evening on 23rd March for the series "Spirit of Life and Power."

THANK YOU

Thank you God for trees and flowers.
For mums and dads,
For animals tame and wild.
And most of all for your son Jesus Christ.

Thank you God for the soul and mind.
For our brain and ears,
For our daily bread,,
And for missionaries who help people.

Sally Lee Age 8

THANK YOU AGAIN

Thank you for plants and animals,
Thank you for our mums and dads.
Thank you Lord for food and clothes.
Thank you God for the earth and sky.
For man to stand on the moon.
Thank you for our friends.
Thank you for our arms and legs.
Thank you for our minds,
And for Christmas and Easter
Which Jesus was born and died.
Thank you for everything. Amen.

Lindsay Merrick age 9

NOT SEGREGATED

The Men's Fellowship and the Women's Guild had a joint meeting on Tuesday 7th April when Mr. Rhodes gave an illustrated talk on South Africa.
Mrs. C. Hill presided, Mrs. Cockcroft was the pianist and Mr. H. Hill was the projectionist.

B.B. BARGAIN PARTY

Tuesday, 19th May 7.30 p.m.

Display by Mrs. Irene Bearson of Halifax.

Admission 2/6d.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Our usual Good Friday Service conducted by our minister was well attended.
Mr. C. Hill was the pianist.

Letter to the Editor

May I just make a brief comment on the announcements in the April Messenger.

One wonders if there had been a death if the heading would be "Dispatched."

While I appreciate the work you do may I remind you this is a "Church Publication" not a "Monthly Rag."

Yours (Miss) I. Tither.

Miss Tither is not alone in her views. Several people have said they dislike the humour in the "Messenger", but others welcome it. To clarify matters, this is the current editorial policy:

1. Within the life of our church all kinds of events take place; serious, solemn, sad, pleasant and hilarious.
2. It is the "Messenger's" job to catch the mood of the occasion particularly for those who are unable to attend church functions.
3. We will not make a joke of sadness but neither will we give a straight-laced version of events at which people had a good laugh.
4. However, if any contributor particularly asks for either a serious or humorous approach we will honour that request.

****

DEDICATION OF THE NEW ENGLISH BIBLE

Four Bibles were dedicated at the United Service on Palm Sunday March 22nd. These are Library editions of the Old Testament, 2 for each church.

All these have been donated anonymously and we are grateful for these valued gifts.

BETTY WILLIAMSON WRITES FROM SOUTH INDIA

Daily I have queues of men, women and children, Christians, Hindus and Muslims coming for medicines and treatment. We sell iron and vitamin pills, etc. at cost price, and most people can afford to pay for them as our bringing them to the village saves them their bus fares etc. Also, they have great faith in anything the missamma prescribes, so I hope this makes up for any wrong diagnosis I make, though I don't think an overdose of vitamins would kill anyone! Would it? Medical friends please advise!

Wounds and scabies etc. we dress and treat freely while we are in the villages, and the improvement after a few dressings is quite amazing. One man came to me this time with his hand swollen to twice its normal size and covered in dried manure and leaves, so that I couldn't see the wound properly. He said it had been swollen like this for several weeks, but five days ago the pus had begun to come oozing out. Well, I covered the lot with our famous 'cure-all' black icthyol and the next day was about knocked flat by the smell when I took off the dressing. I don't know if it was the manure ripening under the ointment, or gangrene, or what - the former I hope. The sight of a huge hole out of which a mass of pus had come just about finished me, but I pressed on, for what else could I do? Another dose of icthyol to clean out more mess, and advised him to go to hospital. But no! back he came several more times with no signs of going to hospital.

Festering eyes and ears there are in plenty, from young babies to the elderly, and these too get daily squeezes of ointment that miraculously heal them up in a short time. How I wish I knew more and could do more in this village clinic type of work. Our mission hospitals are so understaffed and over-worked that they cannot get out to the villages as they would like.

C.C.W.M.

OVERSEAS EVENING

Organized by the Missionary Committee of the Rochdale Group of Congregational Churches, an 'Overseas Evening' with a difference was held in the Milton Congregational Church on Monday 20th April. Instead of hearing of the traditions and customs of foreign countries from Missionaries or English visitors, we heard from immigrants themselves of the social problems which they face here compared to those at home.

An interesting talk was given by Mr. Ehsan-ul-Haq, the Community Relations Officer in Rochdale, who included some of his own experiences of getting used to our customs, some of which proved rather amusing. He spoke of the respect shown to Missionaries in India, and acknowledged that the best hospitals and schools were provided by Christian Missions.

We also heard from Mr. M. Muzyka, the Liasion Officer of the Ukranian Community, who also brought along delightful examples of traditional crafts. These included brightly decorated real eggs which form part of the Ukranian Easter Celebrations which he described.

Mr. Peter Whitehead presided over the meeting.

****

THINK ABOUT IT

You must spend £100, and must by 100 animals: Elephants £10; Kangaroos 10/-; Rabbits 2/6. How many of each animal will you buy?

Last Month's 'Think About It'

Sir Humphrey asked one sentry "If I asked the other sentry which door leads to freedom, what would he say?"

Whether the sentry is the honest one or the liar he is bound to point to the door which leads to instand death. So Sir Humphrey walked out of the other one.

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Littleborough
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24 Ladyhouse Close,
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Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

******

The editor will require all items for the JUNE/JULY publication by 17th May

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